

Federal Law Enforcing Agency

1896. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are of the view that there is a need for a federal law enforcing agency to deal with crime that is not restricted by the boundaries of a State and often involves several countries; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The concept of "federal crimes" and the need for having a Federal Law Enforcement Agency are being examined. The question of bringing about suitable legislation in this regard, if necessary, will be considered at the appropriate time.

Solution to Kashmir Problem

1897. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have found any breakthrough in bringing peace to the Valley after the release of Hurriyat leaders;

(b) if so, the details of the talks held with Hurriyat leaders so far;

(c) whether a peaceful solution to the Kashmir problem has been served with the release of Hurriyat leaders in recent past; and

(d) if not, what would be the future course of action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Hurriyat Leaders were detained and released on the basis of decisions taken by the State Government. No talks with separatist leaders have been held so far. However, welcoming the initiative taken by Hizbul-Mujahideen for peace, and having taken cognizance of the support extended to the peace initiative by the people of J and

K, as also recognizing the need for restoration of peace, Government had urged the Hizbul-Mujahideen leadership to come overground and establish contact with the Union Home Secretary to discuss the modalities necessary for initiating a dialogue and preparing grounds for restoration of peace. Accordingly initial contact has been established with the Hizbul-Mujahideen. Government would also like to invite all militant groups and political leaders to come forward to restore peace and normalcy in the State.

Law to Deal with Intoxicated Persons

† 1898. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is government's reaction to the news-item published in the "Dainik Jagran" dated 5th June, 2000 under the caption "Dhutt Sepoy Ne JNU Ki Adhikari Ko Thappar Mare, Balon Se Ghasita";

(b) whether Government are considering to pass a strict law in order to prevent such inhuman incidents and specially the incidents wherein women are victimised by the intoxicated persons; and

(c) if so, by when, and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) A case FIR was registered on 4th June, 2000 at Ambedkar Nagar Police Station in which three persons including a constable of Delhi Police, were arrested. The constable of Delhi Police has been also placed under suspension.

(b) and (c) The existing provisions of the Indian Penal Code adequately empower the police authorities to take legal action against those found involved in such crimes.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.